

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 196655
ORIGIN HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 IO-13
L-03 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 /064 R

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EA/TIMBS - M. EASTON
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-----088757 040328Z /61
R 032300Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM WIFE OF DETAINEE

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY DERIAN HAS LETTER FROM ALIYA TUNG, WIFE OF POLITICAL DETAINEE SHUMS T.C. TUNG SEEKING USG HELP WITH HIS CASE. SHE DESCRIBES HER HUSBAND'S ARREST DURING THE GENERAL ELECTIONS OF 1976, IN WHICH HE WAS AN OPPOSITION CANDIDATE, AND HIS DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL SINCE THEN. SHE STATED THAT HE HAS REPEATEDLY REQUESTED AN OPEN TRIAL WITH NO SUCCESS AND THAT SHE NOW FEARS THAT HIS DETENTION WILL BE EXTENDED FOR TWO OR MORE YEARS.

2. WE PROPOSE SENDING THE FOLLOWING LETTER (OPERATIONAL PARAGRAPHS ONLY) TO MRS. TUNG BUT FIRST WISH TO HAVE EMBASSY COMMENTS. NOTE THAT WE ARE SUGGESTING THAT EMBASSY RAISE CASE WITH GOS.

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3. TEXT:
I WAS DISTURBED TO READ OF HIS SITUATION AND TO LEARN THAT HE HAD BEEN DENIED A TRIAL DESPITE REPEATED REQUESTS. I HAVE ASKED OUR EMBASSY TO MAKE AN INQUIRY OF THE SINGAPORIAN GOVERNMENT REGARDING HIS CASE.

IT IS CLEAR TO ME THAT DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL IS IN

DIRECT CONFLICT WITH INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED STANDARDS
OF HUMAN RIGHTS. OUR VIEWS ON THIS HAVE BEEN PRESENTED TO
THE GOVERNMENT OF SINGAPORE ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS. DUR-
ING MY VISIT TO SINGAPORE LAST WINTER, I DISCUSSED THIS
ISSUE WITH OFFICIALS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL AND IMPRESSED
UPON THEM OUR COUNTRY'S COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE THE ELIMINATION OF SUCH
DETENTION IN SINGAPORE AND ELSEWHERE AS AN ESSENTIAL
ELEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY ON HUMAN RIGHTS. END
OF TEXT. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 03 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: N/A
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Review Transfer Date:
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SAS ID: 1542541
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TAGS: SHUM, (TUNG, SHUMS T C)
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